

Maryland Overdose Response Program

Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Overdose Response Program (ORP) Curriculum Guidance

The ORP Core Curriculum (CC) presents the minimum components that must be covered in order for an ORP training to be considered authentic and accurate, making trainees eligible for certification. It standardizes the content of ORP trainings across the state and ensures that each entity's teaching is backed with recent research and evidence-based best practices. While the CC can be used for any audience, BHA has authorized use of a condensed version for trainees that already have background information and context.

ORP Core Curriculum

Necessary components of the CC are stated in Section 9-3130 of the Health General Article:

- Recognition of the symptoms and signs of an opioid overdose
- Protocols for the proper use and administration of naloxone
 - *Trainers only have to present the type of naloxone that is being provided to trainee*
- Proper rescue breathing technique
- The importance of contacting emergency medical services
- The care of an individual after the administration of naloxone

Regulations for the program found in COMAR 10.47.08 further expands upon the required information to also include:

- How to obtain a prescription for naloxone and have that prescription filled
- Notification of the reasons why a certificate may be suspended or revoked and information on the process for appealing a suspension or revocation

The law and regulations allow content beyond what is listed to be required by the Department. The CC contains the following additional required information:

- Background information on opioids
- Naloxone storage and disposal
- Certificate Holder's General Responsibilities
- Good Samaritan Law information
- Calling the Maryland Poison Center to report use of naloxone
- Resources for trainees

The information on the following slides has been made optional and should be dependent on the needs of the trainee and the time available for training. This content is NOT required:

- How NOT to respond to an opioid overdose (slide 55)
- Overdose Prevention Tips (slide 56-57)

Entities should use the CC for trainings that occur in a setting that allows for the space and time for the all of the content to be covered, such as a classroom. It is most appropriate for, but not limited to, the following audiences:

- ☐ Parents and family members of people who use opioids
- ☐ Law enforcement
- ☐ Employees and volunteers
- ☐ Trainings open to the general public

ORP Core Curriculum Condensed Version

The condensed version of the CC is intended for audiences that have background knowledge of opioids and may have already experienced or witnessed an overdose. The original CC is pared down to only focus on the information required in the Health General Article and COMAR, to expedite training for those that have background knowledge and to facilitate the expansion of the program into settings that require more flexibility in training delivery.

The CC Condensed slides contain information on:

- Defining opioids, naloxone, and overdose
- Recognition of the symptoms and signs of an opioid overdose
- Protocols for the proper use and administration of naloxone
 - *Trainers only have to present the type of naloxone that is being provided to trainee*
- Proper rescue breathing technique
- The importance of contacting emergency medical services
- The care of an individual after the administration of naloxone
- Good Samaritan Law information
- How to obtain a prescription for naloxone and have that prescription filled
- Notification of the reasons why a certificate may be suspended or revoked and information on the process for appealing a suspension or revocation
- Calling the Maryland Poison Center to report use of naloxone

The information on the following slides has been made optional and should be dependent on the needs of the trainee and the time available for training. This content is NOT required:

- Overdose prevention tips (slide 39-40)
- How NOT to respond to an opioid overdose (slide 38)
- Naloxone storage and disposal (slide 37)

The condensed version may be used in settings that do not have access to the equipment needed to show a PPT and where the trainee does not have a lot of time, such as street-based outreach. It is most appropriate for, but not limited to, the following audiences:

- ☐ People who currently use opioids
- ☐ People participating in substance use disorder treatment programs
- ☐ Incarcerated individuals with a history of opioid use

BHA should be notified of any additional topics the entity wishes to cover during training.